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INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

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PP RUEHCR RUQMBE RUQMVL
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TO RUEHCR/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6292
INFO RUQMBE/AEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY 59
RUQMVL/AMEMBASSY TELAVIV PRIORITY 99
ZEN/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 122
ZEN AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD UNN
ZEN/AMEMBASSY AMMAN UNN
ZEN/AMEMBASSY JIDDA UNN
ZEN/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS UNN
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HELOU VISIT

DEPT'S ATTENTION INVITED TO AFP BULLETIN TRANSMITTED MORNING SIXTH STATING LEBANESE PRESS FEATURING (1) REPORTS FRENCH WITL SUPPLY ISRAEL WITH MD 620 GROUND-GROUND ROCKETS; ROCKETS HAVE 500 KILOMETER RANGE CAN REACH BEIRUT AMMAN ALEXANDRIA CAIRO FROM ISRAEL; (2) PHOTOS OF MISSILES. (3) PAPERS SAID ALSO ASSERT FRENCH DUE DELIVER WEAPONS TO ISRAEL BY END THIS YEAR. (4) L'ORIENT QUOTED AS WONDERING IN THIS CONNECTION WHETHER LEBANON WOULD NOT ASK FRANCE FOR MILAID VIZ. MYSTERES.

RMR

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COMMENT: PARIS PRESS CIRCLES BUZZ WITH SPECULATION ON AWKWARD TIMING RELEASE THESE STORIES DURING LEBANESE PRESIDENT'S OFFICIAL VISIT HERE WITH WHICH FRENCH HOPED MARK FRANCE'S "RETURN" TO ARAB EAST AND WONDER WHETHER EGYPTIAN ISRAELI OR AMERICAN AUTHORITES TO BLAME.

BOHLEN
BT

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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